

Cal



# LABOR CLARION

LEADING ARTICLES—February 29, 1924.

FORCED TO CONTRIBUTE  
FREE SPEECH AND PROPAGANDA  
ENTIRE LOCAL UNION JAILED  
MERELY MOSCOW RUSE  
LYING TO BEAT BILLS

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL



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# LABOR CLARION

The Official Journal of the San Francisco Labor Council

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No. 5



## Forced to Contribute



By Franklin Hichborn.

Members of labor unions who are paying private power companies for electric light service are contributing to the Better America Federation.

That interesting fact can be proved by records on file at the Railroad Commission.

Under the system of regulation followed in California, the Railroad Commission fixes rates for electricity high enough to allow the power company its operating expenses, allowance for depreciation of its plant, and a fair return on its investment. Material decrease in the company's operating expenses means decrease in the rates for electricity. The public is therefore interested in seeing these operating expenses kept down. The company is not so interested, for it collects these operating expenses back from the public. Such, by the way, is one of the fundamental weaknesses of the system of regulation. The company has no incentive to keep expenses down, for whatever the operating expenses may be the company collects them back from the public. Every person who pays the company for electricity helps pay these operating expenses. For a power company to charge an item to "operating expenses," means therefore that the company's customers will reimburse the company for the expenditure.

Thus, when a power company charges a contribution to the Better America Federation to operating expenses, the company passes the contribution on to its customers. Every customer when he pays his electric light bill helps pay that Better American Federation contribution.

The records on file at the Railroad Commission show that power companies are contributing to the support of the Better America Federation, and so charging these contributions that they come under the head of operating expenses. Efforts have apparently been made in the past to cover up these contributions, but of late caution has been abandoned, and the Better America Federation contribution charged to the operating expense account.

Thus in 1920, the San Joaquin Light and Power Company subscribed \$300 to the Better America Federation out of "surplus" and charged an additional contribution of \$15 to "miscellaneous general expenses." "Miscellaneous general expenses" are operating expenses. The following year, 1921, the company allowed the Federation \$300 out of surplus and \$6 as a "miscellaneous general expense." No protest followed these \$15 and \$6 feelers out. The company evidently concluded it was safe to make its Better America Federation contribution an operating expense. At any rate, the next year, the company boldly so charged its entire \$300 contribution to the Better America Federation.

The Southern California Edison Company has its \$3000-a-year Better America Federation contribution more carefully covered up. The \$3000, given in \$250 a month installments, was in 1921 and again in 1922, charged to "miscellaneous general office supplies and expense," all of which are finally included in operating expenses. The contribution is made to the Los Angeles "Americanization Fund." This so-called Los Angeles "Americanization Fund" is supported by pledges

aggregating \$160,000 a year for five years, \$800,000 in all for the support of the Better America Federation. Every member of a labor union who is a customer of a private power company which contributes to the Better America Federation himself, every time he switches on an electric light, contributes to that organization's support.

The names Los Angeles "Americanization Fund" and the "Better America Federation" have a patriotic ring to them. But the power companies and allied interests are adepts at picking for their camouflage organizations names ringing with patriotism. The official report of the Jones Investigation Committee that at the last session of the Legislature inquired into corporation political methods, had the following to say of the power company organizations that adopt names ringing with patriotic fervor:

"In reference to the methods employed in connection with campaigns on some of the propositions on the ballot, the committee found they were such as to have the effect of misleading and deceiving the voter. This arises, for example, out of the use of high sounding, patriotic names under which the real identity of the interested parties and actual proponents or opponents is disguised. While many campaign committees selected names that fairly indicated their purpose, others selected designations which gave the voter no indication as to the real purpose or nature of the organization. The most conspicuous example of the latter was the use of the name 'Greater California League' by the opponents of the Water and Power Act. Such a name readily gives the impression of being a promotion organization which every citizen in California would feel free to join, and having nothing in its name to indicate that it was a political campaign organization.

"The testimony before the committee showed that the Greater California League was in reality merely the name under which Mr. Eustace Cullinan, employed by the power companies, conducted the campaign against the Water and Power Act in Northern California.

"The following extracts from Mr. Cullinan's testimony indicate its actual identity:

"The Greater California League never had control of the money (campaign contributions) at all. I put that money in the bank as I received it to an account called the 'Greater California League,' but no one had access to that account except me. . . . It was like most the political groups or committees . . . never had a meeting. . . . I appointed myself president, I was employed by the power companies, through Mr. John S. Drum . . . and met, with myself, after the employment, and organized the Greater California League."

"Invisible government is the curse of American politics. For nearly half a century it has baffled the progress of our free institutions; it has repeatedly nullified the solemn verdict of the people recorded at the ballot box. Surreptitiously it purchases the talents of men of influence in all political parties to espouse and promote its greedy and selfish ends. It supports corrupt, not party, politics."—Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, in *Discussing Teapot-Dome Scandal*.

### MERELY MOSCOW RUSE.

(By International Labor News Service.)

Moscow's plea for a "united front" of labor is a mere ruse, declares J. Oudegeest, secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions, in a statement just received from the Federation's headquarters in Amsterdam, Holland.

Asserting that Moscow has not always stood forth as the champion of the "united front," Oudegeest says:

"The Communists at first aimed at an open cleavage of the national trade union federations; a purpose which they accomplished in France, where a Communist federation of trade unions now exists side by side with the bona fide federation, to the great prejudice of both. But in the course of time the Communists discovered that the West-European trade union system was not to be so easily disrupted; and it occurred to the wiseheads of Moscow that it might be advisable to adopt more subtle tactics. Moscow experienced a change of heart. It suddenly saw the need of a united front in European labor; it ran up its new flag with great zeal; and it now stands forth to the world as the champion of unity, peace and good-will in the world of labor.

"Is Moscow sincere in its new creed? If so, why does it leave uncorrected the rules of the Red Trade Union International? In these rules, it is stated, without possibility of misconstruction, that 'the aims of the Red Trade Union International are to bring together the revolutionary class-conscious element of the trade union movement throughout the world; to carry on a decisive struggle against the International Labor Office, which is a branch of the League of Nations, and against the International Federation of Trade Unions at Amsterdam, which is, by its policies and tactics, the staunchest ally of the bourgeoisie.'"

After pointing out that Moscow's policy has led to a split and loss of membership among the French railwaymen and telling of the efforts of the Communists to obtain the upper hand in the German trade unions, Oudegeest concludes with the following:

"We believe we have said enough to prove that for Moscow the 'united front' fable is a mere ruse. For nearly everywhere the Communists are divided amongst themselves—even in their own little sphere, their quarrels make efficient work impossible. And 'if they do these things in the green tree, what shall be done in the dry?'"

"By all means, then, let us give up that talk about a 'united front' and let us establish real unity within our ranks. The working classes, national and international, must recognize the duty of maintaining the bona fide trade unions intact, that their long experience, their practical grasp of real trade union business, and their devotion to the ideals of progress, may come to the aid of labor in its hour of need. Idle talk of a united front with communism must give way to the demands of the impending struggle with a united and revived capitalism. It is for the Communist trade unions to show whether they can do anything of practical value for labor, or whether they will merely continue to paralyze every genuine trade union activity."



**FREE SPEECH AND PROPAGANDA.****Mathew O. Tobriner.**

Edward Bok has raised more than the problem of peace; he has challenged democracy. Whenever democracy has dominated men it has been vulnerable, like Achilles, in one spot,—the dollar spot. Dollars are apt to beget votes and democracy vanishes into plutocracy. When Rome was a republic it was made of bricks; under Augustus it turned to marble, and Augustus was the first of the monarchs. Republican Florence had none of the splendor of the Medici but it was free. In both cases gold brought riches and snobbishness, and today we wonder of the dollar and democracy is compatible. Can the propaganda of the plutocrat swing the mob to his point of view and make of the government of the many, the government of the rich? Does Mr. Bok in trying to make the world safe for peace, make it unsafe for republicanism? The Bokian method, at any rate, is a pertinent query, squarely thrust in the teeth of the democrat, asking him if his system of government cannot be wrecked by privately financed propaganda.

Undoubtedly, in any democracy there exists the possibility of dollar-made disintegration, but to remove all influence of propaganda upon public opinion or upon public-opinion-run government we must eliminate either the economic system based upon the acquisition of money or the political system based upon public opinion. If we remove the dollar we have socialism such as was tried in this country before the advent of democracy. When the New London Company settled Jamestown in 1606 men were forbidden to acquire property, but were enjoined to contribute to the "common-wealth"; and the consequence was semi-starvation. As an ideal, socialism may be commendable; as a present solution of the peril of private propaganda, impractical. Seeing, then, that the dollar cannot be outlawed, we ask ourselves if the propaganda peril can be eliminated by any other means,—as for instance, by laws which prevent the dissemination of printed matter of this sort in the mails. This is to turn to the second horn of the dilemma; the elimination of the present political system. After all, to forbid free discussion and freedom of the press is to leave intact only the shell of democracy. Picture a censor sitting in Washington deciding what the public is to read and what it is not; picture men convicted by the courts because they have influenced the minds of fellow citizens or because they have not, and you have pictured pre-revolutionary Russia in all her glory. If, in our zeal for democracy we turn to the instruments of autocracy we endanger the very institution we endeavor to preserve. Thus, the elimination of appeals to the public wrecks the present system as effectively as the elimination of the motive of the acquisition of property. And if money and democracy remain, so does propaganda.

Propaganda may be temporarily undesirable but in the long run the greatest danger it presents is the possibility of forbidding it. Money may make an idea popular but never permanent. As Spinoza wrote, the truth alone lives, and the dissemination of ideas,—wrong or right,—only clears the way for this truth. Were there no error there could be no righteousness. If Edward Bok is in the wrong, let him preach his "false" opinions, so that through discussion and debate, the truth may be found. What stimulates thought is dangerous only to those who fear progress. It is the capitalists of ignorance who oppose education just as it is the profiteers of disorganized labor who oppose unionism. If an idea is conceived its dissemination will do no harm; it will prove its death-bed or christening depending upon its intrinsic quality. Free speech is an idea-purifier. Applied to labor as well as peace problems, free speech brings the dissemination of ideas

—or propaganda—and thus allows for progress. Progress it is the Mr. Bok brings, for although propaganda may bring retrogression, it comes as the handmaid of education. To forbid it is to condemn advancement.

**GREED PILFERS PUBLIC DOMAIN.**

Out of the bewildering tangle of Teapot Dome, the following may be considered the "high points":

For years private interests have attempted to gain control of oil lands that Congress set aside for navy uses. The Navy Department was placed in control of these lands.

Efforts were made, without success, to have Presidents Taft, Roosevelt and Wilson ignore this mandate of Congress.

Albert B. Fall resigned his office as United States Senator from New Mexico and accepted the position of Secretary of the Interior in President Harding's Cabinet, March 5, 1921.

Secretary of the Navy Denby, who was the legal custodian of the oil lands, joined with Fall in recommending to the President that control of the oil lands be given to the Interior Department. This was done. The change was made, it is claimed, to get rid of the strenuous objections of navy officers.

Fall and the Navy Secretary then leased the oil lands to private exploiters. Fall resigned from the Cabinet.

The Senate adopted Mr. La Follette's resolution calling for an investigation. A "hot trail" was not struck by the probers until stories of Fall's sudden prosperity in New Mexico reached Washington.

Fall was called to testify, but refused to answer questions. He said it might incriminate him.

On January 31 the Senate unanimously called for the annulment of the oil leases on the ground that they "were executed under circumstances indicating fraud and corruption."

On February 11 the Senate, by a vote of 47 to 34, asked the President to request Secretary Denby's resignation. The President replied that the Senate had no legal right to take such action, and that he will await the report of special counsel he appointed to investigate the entire subject.

The anti-Denbyites reply that the Senate must approve Cabinet appointments, and therefore the Senate has a voice in the fitness of Cabinet officials.

Defenders of Secretary Denby say he may have committed an error of judgment, but that is not a crime. They rely on the act of 1920 which states that the Secretary of the Navy shall "conserve, develop, use and operate" the oil reserves.

The Denby defenders would have the entire matter shifted to the courts. Opponents of this plan say public interest would be lost in dry legal proceedings.

Around the above points revolve a sordid tale of corruption in high places and debauchery of public office by big business.

**ALASKA SALMON TRUST.**

A battle against the monopolization of Alaska salmon has been quietly waged in a committee room of the House. The cannery corporations are arrayed against Delegate Sutherland, representing the Territory of Alaska, and officers of the Seamen's Union.

The fight is over a bill that would legalize a decision by Secretary of Commerce Hoover, who set aside fish reserves in the Alaskan waters. The rule provided how many fish could be caught, by what method, and, most important of all, who could catch the fish. Defenders of the decision said it was the only way salmon could be conserved. Opponents insist it is a denial of every English-speaking right from the time of Magna

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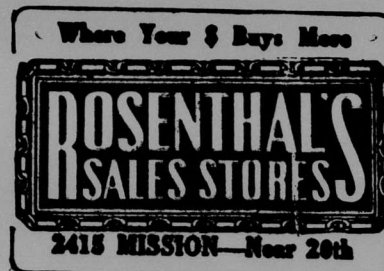
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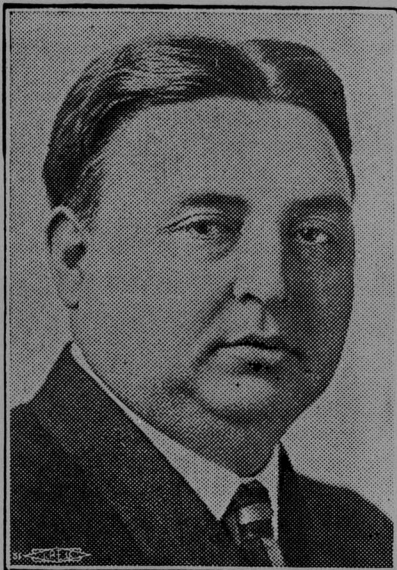


Charta and that the alleged conservation of salmon is in the interest of the Cannery Trust.

President Furuseth of the International Seamen's Union said it was as reasonable to set a fox to guard the geese as to set the cannery men to guard the salmon. The unionist urged that all Alaskan waters within the three-mile limit be set aside as a fish preserve with regulations that would apply to all fishers.

Members of the House committee exhibit a lively sentiment for fish conservation and have instructed a sub-committee to prepare a bill to be brought before the full committee.

#### A REAL FRIEND TO LABOR.



Mr. Wood F. Axton, President of the Axton-Fisher Tobacco Co. of Louisville, Ky., Manufacturers of Clown Cigarettes, who donated Over \$35,000 in Tobacco, Cigarettes and Cash to the Striking Miners and Railroad Shop Crafts.

Probably no other man outside of organized labor has done more for labor than Wood F. Axton, president of the Axton-Fisher Tobacco Co., whose amiable likeness appears above. At the time when great industrial resources were combined against the miners and railway shop crafts, in their struggle for justice and right, and did not, as the case of so many of family, have the money to spare for their usual requirements for tobacco or cigarettes, Mr. Axton not only shipped, prepaid, to the various locals a most generous supply of Clown Cigarettes for free distribution among the strikers, but sent thousands of dollars in cash for the relief of the distressed. To the striking miners he sent over \$20,000 in tobaccos and cigarettes and cash, and the R. R. shop crafts, through the System Federations, over \$10,000 in merchandise and \$5000 in actual cash.

Mr. Axton is a product of toil. He came right up from the soil where long hours and hard work so well fitted him to sympathize with those who labor with their hands to become the great believer in, and the friend of, organized labor that he is today.

When he began manufacturing smoking tobacco 23 years ago, Mr. Axton went to those who were striving for the betterment of working conditions for his help and ever since, in the face of all the taunts and pleadings of his acquaintances in "bigger business," has stood by, and employed, union labor exclusively.

Mr. Axton holds that the one who works, not only is entitled to more than a mere "living" wage, but a "saving" wage and to earn it under decent working conditions at such hours as will enable him to have some time to himself and to his family or friends.

Every one employed in his plant, from the

porter up, is regarded as a co-worker and not simply an employee. Besides, he not only has provided the most decent working conditions in his magnificent plant, but every worker is given a 20-minute recess at 10:00 in the morning and 3:00 in the afternoon when they can repair to their own recreation rooms, dance, sing, read or otherwise employ the time as they wish.

At the noon hour every one is given a free warm lunch of well-cooked food and ample time for recreation. Shower baths and sanitary steel lockers are also supplied free to everyone. In addition to these features every employee is given a life insurance policy, from \$500 to \$1500.

According to Mr. Axton there are no workers like contented workers. And to have contented workers, he maintains, they must be treated like human beings, paid a decent wage, have decent working hours under decent working conditions.

#### INJUNCTION JUDGE REBUKED.

The Federal Court of Appeals at Cincinnati has set aside the prison sentence and fine imposed by Federal Judge Ross on Jacob Cohen, editor of the Memphis Labor Review, who was charged with contempt of court.

The cause of Judge Ross' wrath was an article on strikebreakers that Editor Cohen published in the 1922 Labor Day issue of his paper. Just previously Judge Ross issued an injunction against the striking railroad shop men. The writ was similar to the injunction issued at the request of Attorney General Daugherty.

The article that offended Judge Ross had no direct bearing on the railroad strike. It was a general indictment against strikebreakers, and had appeared in various labor papers. The editor assured the court it was published without intent to reflect on him.

Judge Ross held that the article was intended to incite disorder and bring the court into contempt. In passing sentence on the labor editor he showed his prejudice by censuring the strikers.

The Ross verdict revived a nation-wide criticism of injunction judges by the labor press and sympathetic editors who realize what the labor injunction logically leads to.

An ironical criticism by G. V. Sanders, editor of the Memphis Press, infuriated Judge Ross, who fined the newspaper man \$300.

Editor Cohen was not affected by threats of jail and fine. At his first opportunity, in a public speech he notified Judge Ross that he would never "bend the knee to an autocrat and a usurper of power."

While the labor injunction is bad enough at best, the Ross sentence, if upheld, would mean that a judge who carried his corporation attorney bias to the Federal bench could silence any labor paper that printed anything distasteful to his former clients.

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MEMBER OF  
UNITED LABOR PRESS OF CALIFORNIA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1924.

A thousand years scarce serve to form a State;  
An hour may lay it in the dust.

—Byron.

In the industrial world the fellow, or the organization, that has nothing to confer about is, sooner or later, due to get a fine drubbing. At the time of refusal things may look rosy, but there is surely another day coming when the wind is blowing from the opposite direction. Generally there is nothing lost by giving the other fellow a little consideration.

Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, says reports of unions indicate a steady gain in membership throughout the country and the coming year gives promise of being a good one for the labor movement, particularly from the standpoint of membership gains, but also in earnings of the workers, as the general trend is toward higher wage levels. This is as it should be and is cause for optimism and rejoicing on the part of the organized workers.

No matter what arguments may be presented from any source whatever the fact remains that of the two plans for income tax reduction, the Mellon scheme and the Garner idea, the Garner plan is the better for the poor man. The Mellon plan leaves the tax on incomes below \$5000 just as it is at present, while the Garner plan adopted by the House, reduces the tax on these small incomes to 2 per cent and raises the amount exempted for single persons to \$2000 and married persons to \$3000. No amount of argument, however ingeniously presented, can blind the taxpayer to the clear logic of the situation. The wage worker will be benefited by the Garner plan and there is nothing whatever in the Mellon scheme for him. Mellon was striving to serve the big interests and to hoodwink the person of small income. That is all there is to it. He wanted to make the little fellow pay a larger portion of the government expense, which was unfair and unreasonable and the members of the House of Representatives are to be thanked for declining to concur in the trickery. The Senate will more than likely agree with the House. At any rate it should do so in the interest of the square deal.

## Lying to Beat Bills

No very large number of people in any walk of life desire to leave the gates open to immigration at the present time because nearly everyone realizes the grave danger of such a policy to the future of the country. However, there are some employers of labor who want to flood the market with cheap labor and who care little or nothing for the effect such a plan would have upon the future. Their dominant idea is to gather in the profits, and many of them would willingly sacrifice the interests of everybody else in order to gain their own ends. There is no trickery they would not resort to in order to induce Congress to leave the bars down, but the matter has received the serious consideration of the great mass of the American people during the past five or six years and they have made up their minds that rather rigid restriction must be the policy of the government during the next decade or two, and any indication of a change of heart on the part of national legislators will bring out the insistent protests of all those who love their country and want to see it continue at the head of the list of prosperous and progressive nations.

Some employers of labor need watching in this regard and the people are so well aware of this fact that they can be depended upon not to go to sleep while the present Congress has the question before it for action.

Proposed immigration laws backed by organized labor are under a barrage of lies.

Interests hostile to the immigration bill proposed by Representative Johnson of Washington are trying to make it appear that foreigners now in the United States will be denied the privilege of bringing their relatives here under the provisions of the proposed legislation.

Great numbers of foreign-born people have been fooled by this misleading and lying propaganda, with the result that opposition has developed to the Johnson bill and similar bills. In Massachusetts the barrage of lies has resulted in the passage by the State Legislature of a resolution condemning the Johnson bill.

The fact of the matter is that the Johnson bill specifically provides that immigrants may bring their fathers and mothers, husbands and wives and children under 18 to the United States and that such persons brought here shall be considered "non-quota" immigrants and shall not be counted on the quotas of the nations from which they come.

The great mass of the foreign-born people are unaware of this provision of the Johnson bill, which explains why those working against the bill have been able to arouse hostility to it.

Supporters of the Johnson bill suspect that the friends of unrestricted immigration are planning to delay all action in Congress on the bill until late in the session, where there would be the chance that immigration would be forgotten in the rush of the closing days. If this should happen, the way would be open for an unparalleled flood of immigration to the United States, as the present immigration law, popularly known as the "3 per cent law," expires June 30, 1924.

If the 3 per cent law is permitted to expire and if no other legislation is enacted, the movement to the shores of the United States of the largest migration of peoples in the history of the world may be expected to begin July 1, 1924.



## FLUCTUATING SENTIMENTS

Thrift, that is the systematic saving and investment of savings in productive enterprises, is the principle to be used in America to establish the right relations between capital and labor for which the American labor movement is striving. If labor becomes thrifty, it will eventually acquire all the capital needed to provide the workers with all the necessities and comforts of life and the nest egg for a rainy day, the chief aim of every worker in society. The present movement in labor groups to start labor banks is an expression of this tendency toward thrift and a beginning to realize it as a means of achieving the aims of labor. Thrift may work a revolution in the history of mankind, far more lasting and beneficent than the French and Russian revolutions, which founded their temporary success on mere physical force and plunder; the legalized robbery under which the workers of the old world conceived themselves to have been exploited, they in turn sought to use against their oppressors. But force and robbery are not the real factors in the process of the growth of capital, and American labor has begun to realize that it is really thrift of the few that amassed capital for the few and the lack of thrift that keeps the many in bondage to the few. Labor's real and lasting success will be achieved through the spiritual force of thrift rather than by any use of mere physical force, and thrift will aid labor in its aim to emancipate the workers and lead them into the new era of economic and social freedom, when we shall have the capitalism of the many instead of the capitalism of the few, a capitalism not to be based on collective or communistic ownership but the free and independent resources of the individual workers, under democratic government and ideals.

Most people, those of small means and experience, have erroneous ideas about profits. They believe that such are always large in proportion to the prices charged for goods or services. In fact, the contrary is true. It is not the profit on each individual article sold, or item of business transacted, but the volume of sales or transactions that produces high income or large profits in a business. Every small business competing with a large business is so restricted in its ability to earn profits that it very often fails to earn any profits and is run at a loss or goes out of business. It is their immense volume of business, and not high profits on individual transactions, that makes the big banking, insurance, packing and manufacturing institutions so profitable and wealthy. That is the real secret of modern capitalism, and it is the good side of its activities, for it makes the products of modern civilization comparatively cheap to the public. They have, however, another side, the bad side to their existence. As they grow larger and larger and cut melon after melon for their stockholders, they do not reduce the prices of their wares and services to the point at which they produce the same profits as before, that is with the increase in the volume of their transactions they do not reduce the prices in proportion to the increased volume of profits. That is the evil in big business, and that is the evil in modern capitalism, and it will take mental as well as persistent and mighty effort on the part of the great public to squeeze these unholy profits out of big business so as to bring prices lower and lower with the advancing tide of larger and larger volume of business transactions. That is the problem and the remedy for modern capitalism in a nutshell.

## WIT AT RANDOM

"Well, Art, I can tell you're a married man all right. No holes in your stockings any more."  
 "No. One of the first things my wift taught me was how to darn 'em."—American Legion Weekly.

"Do you think the new sheriff can stop gambling in Crimson Gulch?"  
 "Shouldn't be surprised," answered Cactus Joe. "First thing he did was to bet \$500 he could."—Washington Star.

"Marriage is a great game, isn't it?"  
 "Yes; but it always results in a tie!"—The Yale Record.

Cynthia—How is your husband?  
 Dorothy—I haven't seen him for five years. I think I must have said something to annoy him.—London Mail.

"The only thing for you to do is to go around and ask her to forgive you."  
 "But I was in the right."  
 "Then you'd better take some flowers and candy with you, too."—Mugwump.

A Southern negro minister who was given to the use of big words and complicated discourse was waited upon by the church committee and told that his style of preaching was not all that could be desired.

"Don't I argify and sputify?" inquired the minister.

"Yes, yo' done argify and sputify," responded a member of the committee, "but yo' don't show wherein."—Boston Transcript.

Headlight Bill was a colored gentleman of sporting proclivities, who had got his name from a large diamond which he wore as a stud. He had occasion to consult a doctor about a "misery" in his chest.

The medical man eyed the stud keenly. This made Headlight somewhat uneasy.

After asking a number of questions, the doctor produced a stethoscope and placed it squarely over the stud. Finishing his examination the doctor looked solemn. So did the patient.

"An't it genuwine, doctah?" asked Headlight.—Pittsburgh Sun.

## How to Get Warm.

Sell fire insurance. Value a man's store at twice what it is worth. Sleep over store until warm.

\* \* \*

Smoke a cigaret in bed. Doze off and leave cigaret alight. It keeps the home fires burning.

\* \* \*

Enter phone booth. Give central wrong number. She may get you right one. Laugh until warm.

\* \* \*

Pay all your bills at once. Make a huge bonfire with the check stubs. Even the neighbors can get warm.

\* \* \*

Throw rocks at a policeman. He will make things hot for you.—Life.

Conversation between husbands when wages for wives take effect:

"What do you pay your wife?"

"A hundred dollars a month, but you've no idea how hard it is to keep a good one."—Spokane Spokesman-Review.

## MISCELLANEOUS

## ENTIRE LOCAL UNION JAILED.

(By International Labor News Service.)

At Montpelier, Indiana, 47 molders, the entire membership of Local Union No. 357 are in jail under bonds totaling approximately one-quarter of a million dollars. The imprisonment of this entire local union followed within two or three hours after a terrific explosion which occurred in front of a hotel in which strike-breakers were being housed.

Despite the force of the explosion, which virtually demolished the front of the hotel, broke all plate glass in the business district and damaged buildings three blocks away, no one was killed or injured.

On November 24, 1923, the membership of Local Union No. 357 struck against the introduction of piece-work in the foundry of the Montpelier Manufacturing Company. Nearly all of the members of the union were born in Montpelier, were widely known and highly respected. Despite this fact, and despite the fact that the strike had been conducted in the most peaceful manner, without any unlawful conduct of any character, suspicion was at once attached to members of the union because of the fact that the hotel before which the explosion occurred had been taken over as a headquarters for strike-breaking molders.

Trade unionists here believe this is the first instance of the imprisonment of an entire local union.

Conditions in the jail at Hartford City, Indiana, where the men are confined, are decidedly uncomfortable. It is not even possible for all of the prisoners to sleep at one time because of the overcrowded condition.

In spite of the fact that the most stringent restrictions have been adhered to, officials of the International Molders' Union and attorneys for the organization have been able to make an investigation, the result of which promises to demonstrate completely the innocence of the accused men as soon as a trial can be had.

The most important step toward establishment of the innocence of the accused molders is the discovery of the motive for the commission of the crime by others. Officials of the union came here from international headquarters at Cincinnati with the avowed purpose of investigating the situation with a view to determining who was guilty and not with a view to establishing the innocence of any one unless that innocence was determined by evidence.

Their findings as partially revealed after the investigation point clearly to the fact that there was a motive for the commission of the crime by others, and that neither the explosion nor those who caused it were in any way connected with the dispute between Local Union No. 357 and the Montpelier Manufacturing Company.

The union officials are not ready to discuss this motive or to indicate the direction in which their suspicions point. It is known, however, and it is regarded as of the utmost significance that a representative of the State Attorney General, who had been directed to assist the local prosecuting attorney, returned to the state capitol after making an investigation, declining to participate in the prosecution of the men now in jail.

It is held that the only interpretation to be placed on this action is that the office of the Attorney General of the state is convinced that the members of the Molders' Union are innocent and that the explosion was caused by persons not connected with the union or with the strike.



## TYPOGRAPHICAL TOPICS

One of No. 21's widely known members passed from among us when William W. Shannon died at his home at 216 Waller street, Wednesday, February 20, 1924. The cause of death was carcinoma. Mr. Shannon was a native of San Francisco and was 65 years of age. Left to mourn his departure are his widow, Mrs. Annie L. Shannon; one son, W. W. Shannon, Jr.; one sister, May W., and one brother, Warren Shannon, city Supervisor. Mr. Shannon served as state printer of California from 1903 to 1911, since which time he has led a retired life. Prior to accepting the state printership he had been connected with the printing firm established by his father. The funeral was held Friday morning, February 22, from Sacred Heart Church, Fell and Fillmore streets, followed by interment in Holy Cross Cemetery. Besides being a member of the Typographical Union, he was a member of the Native Sons, B. P. O. E., F. O. E., Union League Club and Lincoln Grammar School Association.

Joe Trego, Examiner machinist, who had the misfortune to injure one of his knees some time ago while employed in the office, has sufficiently recovered to resume work.

Work on the Chronicle's new home at Fifth and Mission streets, has progressed to a point where it is almost possible to imagine the layout of the plant. It will be several months, however, before the paper will be in its new home, and the chapel members are anxiously awaiting the change.

J. A. Henderson, Examiner Chapel, and his wife were the victims of an automobile accident Sunday, which resulted in both being removed to a hospital. The writer has been unable to learn the particulars.

Word has just reached this city that the Chicago newspaper scale has been settled, after months of negotiation by the union committee and the employers. The new scale is for three years from May, 1923, retroactive to February 1, 1924, and calls for \$1.29 per hour for day work and \$1.40 per hour for night work. The working hours were also reduced from eight to seven and one-half. Readjustments were also made in the bonus scale for machine operators. When it seemed a deadlock had been reached, President Howard was called in and it was largely through his efforts that results were obtained.

Rumor has it that Big Six is deadlocked in newspaper scale negotiations and that President Howard has been called upon by the union, and welcomed by the publishers, to settle the differences there.

The Red Room of the Fairmont Hotel was the magnet that attracted the typos and members of the allied trades Saturday evening, February 23rd. The Craftsmen's Club, under the direction of President Haywood H. Hunt and Craftsman Joe Springer, gave their annual dinner dance; every table was occupied by the members of the club and their ladies, and the monotony of home cooking was varied by a repast that will be talked of by printorial connoisseurs for some time to come. After an address by the president, the guests were seated and the courses were punctuated by dances. A monologue by Tim O'Leary, entitled "Fretting," was the premier of the diversions. He was followed by Frank Kristan, whose splendid voice poured out in tones of liquid melody "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep." Billy Griswold of the Salesmen's Guild gave an original composition on the saxophone, and for an encore the old favorite, "Isolda Saw." Professional talent was then introduced and the Wyatt sisters and company rendered "Drigo's Serenade," "Days of '76," "Song and Blackbirds," "Message of the Violet"

and "Yankee Doodle." The balance of the evening was devoted to terpsichore. Moye Dreyfuss, Frank Guinee and Hartley Jackson were the recipients of many encomiums from their partners for their knowledge of the technique of the dance.

On Monday evening, March 2nd, at 7:45, the regular meeting of the Craftsmen's Club will be held at the Commercial Club, Merchants' Exchange Bldg. A program has been adopted that will interest every member of the allied trades. The spirit of "share your knowledge" permeates the membership, and apprentices are welcomed and assisted. Difficulties or new kinks that may arise in the business are studied, and if the solution can not be had locally, if it can be solved it will be solved by some member of the allied clubs.

C. W. Curle, for many years a member of No. 21, and for the past several years engaged in manufacturing supplies for printing offices, under the name of the Curle Manufacturing Co., has recently incorporated his company and is now offering a small amount of stock to printers in the bay region who may have some loose money. The new company proposes to branch out in its activities and with the addition of a small amount of working capital, it is hoped to be able to handle propositions which heretofore were out of reach. The headquarters of the company are at 421 Sacramento street.

W. W. Rabourn, who has been sojourning in this city for the past several months, drew his traveler last week and departed for the East. Mr. Rabourn proposes to visit the Grand Canyon en route to St. Louis, where he will visit relatives, after which he will proceed to New York City.

Robt. O. Johnson, one of No. 21's apprentices, who was initiated to full membership at the February meeting of the union, has drawn his first traveler and hit the road. Mr. Johnson, while a good printer, will gain a vast amount of experience in the various offices in which he will work.

Henry Krieger, for several years foreman at the Louis Roesch office, has resigned and is now foreman at the Schwabacher & Frey plant on Third street. Mr. Krieger is a first class printer and his friends wish him success in his new position.

T. C. Goodwin and wife, who have been visiting friends in Southern California, spent a few days in San Francisco last week. Mr. Goodwin is an employee of the Chicago American. They intend visiting in Salt Lake, Denver and the Home at Colorado Springs on the return trip. Both Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin were very much impressed with California and especially San Francisco.

Fred W. Konkell, late of the Financial Times, has accepted a position with the Curle Manufacturing Co. and will devote his time selling the many products of the concern to California printers. Mr. Konkell has had considerable previous experience as a salesman and will no doubt be of invaluable assistance to his new employer.

Representative Eugene Donovan spent several

days this week in the city in assisting the scale committee in its negotiations. He was also a visitor to Sacramento during the week, where he advised with the scale committee of that city.

### Chronicle Chapel Notes—By L. L. Heagney.

Chairman Mackey's chief amusement these days is to listen to his Neutrodyne radio receiver broadcasting "Mama Loves Papa, Papa Loves Mama."

Greenbacks dropped like autumn leaves into the willing hands of Messrs. McDermott, Carreg, Voss and Ensign last week. They seem to have learned the art of properly investing capital.

Recently Louis Muir completed a University Extension course in poultry culture. Still more recently he installed a radio in his Daly City mansion. Cynical friends say there is a reason: that if one of his high-priced hens ever lays an egg he is prepared to broadcast the fact.

Perseverance and the telephone will make the most unwilling pay up. Some Sundays ago a bird skidded into Jack Caldwell's Maxwell. The jar almost snapped Jack's think apparatus off; luckily his car carried a first-class bumper and little damage was done. To get that little required many a phone conversation though.

A fill-in makeup editor was jumped by Chairman Mackey a while back for handling type. A very serious young man, he appears to lack a sense of humor and the editorial and composing rooms kid him considerably without him becoming conscious of the fact. Of course, the call down let him in for more and he acquired a large peeve, which came to a head when Skipper Wells, who loves a little joke, told him the chairman wanted Auto Show tickets, but felt a slight delicacy about personally asking him for them.

Doc Harriman enjoys the felicity of an over-



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coat, be the weather torrid or frigid., For the first time in years he went to lunch the other night without it. But upon rising from the table he reached, through force of habit, for a coat, stuck in one arm and tried to encase the other. "It is just as well for me," said a freezingly polite voice, "that coat doesn't fit. It belongs to me. Let me help you take it off."

Last week's Clarion carried a paragraph to the effect that W. L. Hall was to print a city directory of San Mateo and Burlingame with the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce. After arrangements had been completed, however, the Chamber made demands, one of which was the book should be printed annually instead of every two years. Mr. Hall refused to comply and the matter has been dropped.

Diet is being scientifically investigated by Paddy Paddock. By experimenting on himself he hopes to determine whether our fuzzy friend, b'r'er rabbit, has the right dope. He began his experiments by taking four glasses of Spring Valley and a head of lettuce at each meal. Soon he expects to reduce this to a glass of water and a lettuce leaf at feeding time.

Joe Holland approached Dan Shannon, saying: "Dan, guess you'll have to let me have a piece of change to eat with—lost a quarter on the ferry this morning." Producing the dough, Dan told him he ought to see the quartermaster about it. This was at 10 a.m. At 5:45 p.m. Joe was observed in convulsions of mirth. On regaining coherency he informed Dan that was a deucedly clever joke. Mr. Shannon murmured something about telling an Englishman a joke when he's young so he can have a good laugh when he gets old.

Andy Ward, originator of the famous saying, "Who's goofy now?" wants to know, if a cook buys oil stock is she a Teapot Dome-stic?

Teapot Dome sure has smeared up the chances of a lot of would-be candidates, and to fill the void thus caused the names and qualifications of several distinguished chapel members are listed.

One of the men doubtless open to suggestions of candidacy is Monsieur De Jarnatt, whose ancestors from remote antiquity hunted the fierce wild frog on the plains of Gaul. He has been here long enough to learn to speak a few words of Americanese without an oily accent.

As to Professor Groom's antecedents history is silent, which is more than the professor is. By no means like Tennyson's brook, still he fears not redundancy when elucidating an idea, and no one can ladle out "salve" more scientifically. Oil and salve are not identical, so he shouldn't be barred on that account.

Dan Shannon was ushered into this oily world before the days of condensed milk and his hardy Nevada parents reared him on the milk of the cactus, the official state flower. This diet now enables him, since the oleaginous article attracted so much undesirable attention, to quit using crude oil on his oatmeal.

As an embryo candidate it should be said for Dave Hughes that the fusel oil has been extracted from the grape juice he uses. Also he has handled no oil slush funds, perhaps for the very good reason he never had a chance.

Scandalous stories were afloat that two other possibilities, Dan O'Connell and old John Long, had become involved by buying oil stock. An investigating committee whitewashes them, however, by announcing they purchased gold-dredging stock instead.

Red Fields resembles a gusher in that he has an overflow of enthusiasm when the name of a candidate to head a certain union is mentioned. Otherwise he is connected with the Teapot Dome business only to the extent of buying a bottle of hair oil once a week.

O. K. Swiggett ought to get a call—Charley

Cullen and Slug 37 contend it would be an outrage if he didn't. Even Harvey Bell, the office Lenine, agrees Mr. Swiggett is O. K., which appears to be the apotheosis of indorsement.

Can good come out of Los Angeles? Some regard the oil center as a bar sinister and Frank Hutchinson will have to do some tall explaining as to why he first appeared there. Topped with a five-gallon lid, however, he would make an imposing candidate.

Bill Harris claims to be the most eminent nonentity in the race, a trait by which candidates are distinguished from the great unwashed. Data as to Bill's early life is hazy. Some authorities say his training included African golf, which he studied by midnight oil, none of which, however, came from Teapot Dome, so he can't be connected with the scandal.

Denny Gallagher was not born any closer to Dublin than the tule marshes of the Ohio River, which makes him a wrong font Irishman. To offset this, the only oil he uses is castor, which is not in Teapot Dome.

On the 15th of February the Chronicle Benefit visiting committee completed its monthly term. The members, H. J. Benz, E. W. Beedle and Harvey Bell, deserve the thanks of the membership. They are succeeded by Frank Blanchard, Johnny Branch and Vernon Berry, a goodly trio, but everybody hopes they will have no visits to make.

Writing from Phoenix, Arizona, Charley McWhorter states he has gained in weight since his arrival, notwithstanding he works four days a week, which, says Mac, are four days too many. On his way across the desert from San Diego he broke an axle and had to stop at El Centro; worked three weeks there and then on to Phoenix, finding some good roads to counterbalance the bad ones. He sends regards to the bunch here.

#### UNFAIR PUBLICATIONS.

The Crowell Publishing Company, which publishes the Woman's Home Companion, American Magazine, Farm and Fireside and The Mentor, is meeting with scant success in its union-breaking activities, according to information reaching headquarters of the International Typographical Union.

The large labor turnover has grown so burdensome at the plant in Springfield, O., that recently the company entered into a two-year contract with the Stereotypers and Electrotypes' Union, thus abandoning their plan for running an "open shop." The Springfield Typographical Union is receiving promises of support from union men and women throughout the country in their struggle with the "rat" magazines.

Prior to the lockout the publishing company tried, by promising wages greatly in excess of the scale, to bribe union printers to give up their membership. Only two men in the plant accepted such terms. About twenty years ago, the company owning the same group of magazines declared war on the unions, but after a two-year fight, in which great inroads were made in the circulations of the magazines, peace was made on union terms.

#### TEAMSTERS ORGANIZE.

Omaha teamsters and truck drivers have formed a union.

#### MEAT CUTTERS UNITE.

Rockford, Ill., meat cutters have organized, and announce their purpose to improve working conditions.

Demand the union label on all purchases. That is the best way to promote the cause of unionism. Take no excuses or substitutes.

Perhaps not one in ten of the membership of the American trade union movement fully appreciates what a powerful weapon the union label is for the advancement of their interests, and the same ratio would most likely hold good concerning the easy manner in which the label could produce the desired results if the membership were only consistent in demanding it upon the articles purchased. Why is the average member so absolutely careless of his own best interests as to continue spending money earned under union conditions for products of non-union industries? It surely is time to wake up. Demand the union label on all purchases.

"What became of that portable garage of yours?"

"I tied the dog to it the other day and a cat came by."—Phoenix.

## "EASY TO PAY THE STERLING WAY"

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if the sewing ever rips  
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OVERALLS**  
UNION MADE



## LABEL SECTION.

## Minutes of Meeting Held February 20, 1924.

The regular meeting of the Label Section of the S. F. Labor Council was called to order at 8:25 by President Frank E. Lively, in Mechanics Hall, Labor Temple.

Roll was called and the absentees were Carl Jelm and J. R. Smith.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as read.

Communications—From Union Label Trades Department, sending information in regards to the Trades Union Promotional League; referred to the Agitation Committee. From the American Biscuit Co., wishing the Section success in their Mass meeting. From the Union Stamp Co. of Waco, Texas; referred to the Agitation Committee. Minutes of the Building Trades; noted and filed.

Reports of Unions—Grocery Clerks reported that the Piggly Wiggly stores, White's Cash and Carry at 26th and Castro streets, Potrero Cash Grocery at 2511 24th street, and the Evergood Bakery at Fillmore and Haight streets are still unfair; ask a demand for the Clerks' monthly working button, color changes every month, color for February is dark blue. Lithographers reported that all lithographed checks that do not bear their label are unfair. Janitors reported that they are still trying to organize the janitors in the banks. Cooks' Helpers reported that they are carrying on an active campaign against the Foster's and Compton's dairy lunches, which are still unfair; business is fair; look for the house card Barbers reported that all barber shops open on Sundays are unfair; barber shop at 64 Turk street is strictly union. Carpenters No. 34 reported that business is good; members of the local are looking for and buying labeled goods. Shoe Clerks reported that Feltman & Curme at 979 Market street are still unfair; demand the Clerks' working card when buying shoes; Regal Shoe Company has nothing but union-made shoes. Hatters reported that business is fair; ask a demand for their label when buying felt hats. Carpet Layers reported that business is good, all members working. Glove Workers reported that business is fair; ask a demand for their label when buying gloves. Typographical No. 21 reported that business is fair; ask a demand for their label on all printing. Painters No. 19 reported that business is fair; initiating new members at every meeting; local has close to 1100 members. Brother Johnson reported that business is increasing on the Bell brand collars.

New Business—Moved, seconded and carried that Brother Lively be paid for the time he spent in getting prizes for the mass meeting. Moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary be instructed to write to Hill Bros. Coffee Co. in regards to the label on their printing.

Agitation Committee will meet next Tuesday evening, Room No. 205 Labor Temple.

Being no further business to come before the Section, we adjourned at 10:30 to meet again on March 5, 1924.

Don't fail to attend the whist party to be given by the Ladies' Auxiliary, Wednesday evening, February 27th; score cards 25c.

Demand the union label, card and button on all things that you buy.

Fraternally submitted,

WM. HERBERT LANE, Secretary.

## CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS.

The California State Civil Service Commission announces that examinations for the following railroad positions will be held in San Francisco as soon as possible after April 1, 1924. The compensation for these positions is paid on a per diem basis, and is the prevailing wage for such

positions in San Francisco and vicinity, unless otherwise specially fixed by the Commission:

## Journeyman Grade.

Fireman, Locomotive Switchman—Open, competitive examinations.

Engineman, Locomotive Engine Foreman—Promotional examinations.

## Working Conditions.

Those who are successful in these examinations must expect intermittent employment until they have earned by efficient and faithful service a rank that will entitle them to permanent positions. Efficiency and not seniority is the controlling factor.

## Examinations.

Candidates will be examined primarily for the positions for which they have filed applications, but the Civil Service Commission reserves to the examining board the right, in exceptional cases, to rate a candidate in a lower grade than that applied for if, in its judgment, such a rating is warranted, and an examination is in progress for such lower grade.

The examinations will be oral and may include a practical test depending upon the needs of the case. Each examination will be conducted by a special board of examiners appointed for the purpose by the Civil Service Commission.

Regular examinations will be held immediately following the closing date announced above. In addition, special examinations may be held at such other times as the needs of the service require.

Candidates who fail to appear upon notice may, upon request, have their applications held on file for the next examination.

## Physical Examination.

Candidates who are successful in the oral interview will be required to pass a physical examination given by the examining physician of the Commission. The physician will charge \$1 for this service.

## Qualifications.

The examinations are open to all American citizens who have reached their eighteenth but not their fifty-first birthday, who are in good physical condition, and who meet the experience requirements outlined below for the respective examinations.

Open, competitive examinations—Fireman (locomotive, grade 2); 2 years trade practice (may include apprenticeship). Switchman (grade 2); 2 years trade practice (may include apprenticeship).

All candidates for the examinations listed above must submit to the examiners at the time of the oral interview, satisfactory clearance papers from the last two employers; or, if still employed, a satisfactory performance record from the present superintendent.

Promotional Examinations—Engineman (locomotive) and engine foreman. Candidates must be employed or on call or on the Civil Service lay-off list in positions of the next lower grade; must have been appointed from the Civil Service eligible list; and, after such appointment, must have had at least six months of actual experience on the Belt Railroad in such next lower grade.

Persons desiring to enter these examinations may secure application blanks from the State Civil Service Commission, Room 331, Forum Building, Sacramento; Room 116, State Building, San Francisco; Room 1007, Hall of Records, Los Angeles, and from the following offices of the State Free Employment Bureau: 771 Howard street, San Francisco; 401 Tenth street, Oakland; 176 So. Market street, San Jose; 916 H street, Fresno; 35 N. Center street, Stockton; 206 Court street, Los Angeles.

Completed applications must be filed with the State Civil Service Commission, Forum Building, Sacramento.

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### WAGES OF OPEN SHOP ARE DEATH. (From The Railway Clerk.)

When in 1919 the employees of the Corn Products Refining Company, of Pekin, Ill., did not think it necessary to keep their organization intact and permitted the company to destroy Local No. 73, United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers, they little thought that about forty of their number would have to pay for such carelessness with their lives. Yet, according to the survivors of the disaster which visited the plant on January 3, the company's criminal negligence and the efficiency stunts it inaugurated were responsible for the fatal dust explosion which killed outright between 35 and 40 workers and injured 35 others, many of them expected to die.

While the union was functioning it forced the employers to keep two men on the job keeping the dry starch building free from dust. Also because of the union's demand for double time on Sundays, the plant was idle on that day and thus made it possible to thoroughly clean the building once a week. When the workers went back on an open shop basis those safeguards were eliminated. The plant began to operate on a three-shift, seven-day week basis, the deadly starch dust accumulated everywhere and no one was there to call attention to the daily dangers which confronted the workers.

We deeply regret this unjustifiable loss of life. We greatly sympathize with the surviving relatives of those that were killed. But we should not refrain from pointing to the negligence and short-sightedness on the part of the workers, themselves. Had they been more vigorous in their fight for their union; had their vision carried them a little beyond the question of mere immediate gain, they would have been alive today.

The Corn Products explosion should receive serious thought on the part of the workers who consider union affiliation of no consequence to them. The union not only attempts to add to their daily rations of the productive share of industry in the form of higher wages; it not only

considers means for the development of their health and comfort; the union is also the life-guard of the workers, eagerly watching, eagerly working, eagerly striving for the elimination of all dangers that threaten to snuff out the lives of those who toil before their allotted time.

Many a good worker, now resting quietly beneath a tombstone, would still have been a live member of society had he given early heed to the warning: The wages of an open shop are death.

### SMOKED OUT.

Newspapers recently carried the story of a sudden and destructive fire in a Russian restaurant in New York City "said to have been popular with persons who like Bohemian atmosphere" and "patronized by the wealthy."

Among the guests who narrowly escaped to the street from a second floor dining room, it was disclosed, was Representative Charles L. Underhill of Massachusetts who was being "entertained" by F. Robertson Jones.

Mr. Jones is head lobbyist of the commercial casualty insurance agents and chief opponent before Congress of the Fitzgerald bill to extend the protection of accident compensation to the 100,000 wage earners in private employments in the District of Columbia. The Fitzgerald bill excludes commercial insurance and provides that the protection be carried economically and securely in a single, mutual fund to which all employers in the District will contribute. This bill is supported by the American Federation of Labor, by progressive employers, and by the American Association for Labor Legislation and other social service bodies.

Representative Underhill has brought forward a compensation bill in Congress which would turn the business in the District over to the commercial insurance companies. He is working to have his own bill passed in place of the Fitzgerald bill.

The restaurant fire which interrupted an evening's entertainment appears to have "smoked out" Mr. Jones and Congressman Underhill in more than one sense.

A plumber was sent by his employer to the hightower mansion to repair a gas leak in the drawing-room. When the butler admitted him he said:

"You are requested to be careful of the floors. They have just been polished."

"There's no danger of my slippin' on them," replied the plumber. "I have spikes in my shoes."

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### Brief Items of Interest

The following members of San Francisco unions died during the past week: W. W. Shannon of the printers, Charles Laddy of the waiters, Henry Helligo of the musicians, William Killkelly of the teamsters, Joseph M. Garner of the marine engineers, John F. Collins of the millmen, Paul E. Wiget of the electrical workers, John Dunphy of the carpenters.

The committee appointed by the Labor Council some weeks back to investigate the feasibility of establishing a labor bank in San Francisco has been meeting on Tuesday evening of each week from the time of appointment and has gathered much valuable information from those having a practical knowledge of the business. The committee is still in search of information and will not be prepared to render a final report to the Council until such time as the members are satisfied that an intelligent report can be made.

The Label Section has been holding some very interesting meetings during the past two months, meetings that would be of immense value to those interested in the promotion of the demand for the union label in San Francisco. The demand for the label has fallen off to some extent and it is the purpose of the Section to bring it back to normal in order that the merchants of this city may appreciate the value of having union label goods on their counters. Are you willing to lend a hand in this good work?

The five weeks' coastwide strike of billposters of the Foster & Kleiser Co. came to an end yesterday afternoon, when representatives of the employees' union and of the advertising firm reached an agreement. Three hundred or more of the striking employees, in all of the large cities of the Coast States where the company operates, will return to work Monday. Terms agreed upon by the company and the union are practically the same as those in effect prior to the walkout. In-

stead of receiving \$44 a week straight salary, the employees will receive a \$1 per hour wage. Overtime will be computed on a time and one-half basis, according to D. R. McNeill, San Francisco manager of the concern. John O'Connell, secretary of the San Francisco Labor Council, represented the employees and President G. W. Kleiser and A. F. Lawson, Jr., general manager, represented the company.

John S. Horn, secretary of the Los Angeles Central Labor Council, spent several days in the city during the past week in an endeavor to adjust the difficulties between the union of the billposters and the Foster & Kleiser Company. He left for his home city on Tuesday last well satisfied with the situation. The law and legislative committee of the San Francisco Labor Council has before it the question of beginning an intensive organizing campaign and will report next Friday evening.

During the past week the State Supreme Court has rendered a decision declaring the employment agency law passed by the last Legislature unconstitutional. At a later date, after we have had an opportunity to read the text of the decision, we will comment upon it.

"The Germans are not good losers," said Police Commissioner Enright, of New York. "I like a good loser. Take, for example, young Mainwaring."

"Young Mainwaring made a passionate proposal to a wealthy man's daughter on a moonlit piazza at Dark Harbor. The girl turned him down. Then she said fearfully—for he had laid it on pretty thick:

"And now that I have refused you, do you really intend to commit suicide?"

"That," said young Mainwaring coldly, 'has been my custom hitherto.'"

#### PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT

(New matter is printed in bold type).

Amend the City Charter by amending Section 3 of Chapter I of Article III so as to read as follows:

Section 3. The Supervisors shall meet annually between the first Monday of May and the first Monday of June, and by a vote of a majority of all the members thereof make a budget of the amounts estimated to be required to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of the City and County for the next ensuing fiscal year. The budget shall be prepared in such detail as to the aggregate sum and the items thereof allowed to each department, office, board or commission, as the Supervisors shall deem advisable; provided, however, that the salaries or rates of compensation of the various deputies, clerks, assistants, or employees of every kind or classification of each department, office, board or commission, shall be itemized in said budget.

Before finally determining upon the budget, the Supervisors shall fix such sufficient time or times as may be necessary to allow the taxpayers to be heard in regard thereto, and the Supervisors shall attend at the time or times so appointed for such hearing.

A public hearing on the above amendment will be had in the Labor Temple, Thursday evening, March 13, 1924, at which representatives of interested unions are invited to be present.

#### WIRE WORKERS ORGANIZE.

A fine local has been formed by electrical workers in Atlanta, Ga., who have affiliated with the bona fide Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

#### LINE MEN MAKE GAINS.

Electrical workers employed by the Ohio Bell Telephone Company have secured a union shop agreement.

#### FAVOR DEFENSE FUND.

By the small majority of 312 votes, members of the International Molders' Union favored the creation of an emergency defense fund. In a referendum vote 4284 members voted "yes," and 3972 voted "no."

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